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led to express the rationale
ministration policy.

dressing an audience at Yeshi-
niversity, Shultz said: "The
ud upholds the universal law of
efense, saying, 'If one comes
! you, make haste and kill him

Clearly, as long as threats
law-abiding nations have the
and indeed the duty to protect
selves."

ording to the sources, Reagan
ved the covert "finding" au-
ing CIA training and support
nterrorist units in Lebanon
efore Shultz gave the speech
ecember.

k-Up of Embassy Seen

o sources said that the Sept.
terrorist bombing of the U.S.
ssy annex in Beirut last year
d persuade officials that they
o develop some means of pre-
ng planned terrorist attacks.
the fact, officials learned that
ntelligence agencies had over-
satellite photographs of what
ught to be the van used in the
e bombing.

ose photos showed the vehicle
le a mock-up of the embassy
that the terrorists were us-
r a practice run, sources said.
ugh the connection was estab-
after the fact, the sources
hat, in the future, this kind of
gence might be part of the
for a preemptive attack.

e source argued that the de-
to use a covert team



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Apartment house in Beirut suburb after March 8 car-bombing in runaway mission. Blast killed more than 80 persons.

amounted to recreating for the CIA
a role it played in its early years,
before the Watergate scandal and
subsequent congressional investi-
gations of the agency dampened its
ardor for clandestine operations.

Accordingly, this source said,
Reagan's decision to authorize the
covert team was "the final curtain
on the legacy of both Vietnam and
Watergate." Of all the Reagan ad-
ministration's decisions on national
security, this source said, "It was
the most tricky, the most contro-
versial and sensitive . . . [It] took
the most goading to get change."

But when the operation went
astray after the Lebanese went
ahead with an unapproved car-
bombing, officials involved in the
plan felt they had no alternative to

canceling U.S. support for the an-
titerrorist squads.

One official who favored creation
of the units said: "If you take ter-
rorism seriously, as we must,
you've got to realize that it could
get worse . . . If we had informa-

tion on some terrorists involved in
nuclear detonation practice, you've
got to act. No choice. That is the
type of issue we are going to have
to face, and we better be ready."

*Staff researcher Barbara Feinman
contributed to this report.*

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